

Voting to grant the few corporations controlling the media still further concessions would be a drastic blow for democracy. Isn't the FCC supposed to be looking out for the best interests of the American people? And this move is definitely not in the public's best interest!

The Industries you oversee made huge contributions to your Administration, as well as Congress. That's two branches of government beholden to monied interests. The same companies that ask you to increase their ability to monopolize the public airwaves in your present consideration.

Consider the larger meaning of this; your actions on this matter will tip the balance of power to the hands of the media owners, forever.

I would argue there is little reporting of any depth on many issues precisely because these corporate giants control the budgets of the news departments. Already five or so companies control most of the broadcast resources in the United States. Can this be a good thing?

Yes, we (i.e. we the people) know that many of the Commissioners will benefit financially in the future for their support of the present proposals to benefit the broadcast owners. We certainly know that the rights of the individuals have been eroded by the monied interests you plead before you to gain further control of the public airwaves. The same companies and individuals profited from the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and many other laws paid for by your American public. You can say no to them, even though it may profit you and your bosses more to comply with the major companies who want more penetration into the markets of America.

Your children will have to live with the societal result of this piece of political surrender. It looks like you are surrendering the rights of Americans to their airways to these bosses of media because they have money and you want it.

Remember, these are the public airways, TV and Radio. The corporations already are over dominant in the cable market. All the alleged diversity of all those channels is a lie. Dozens of channels offer the same lowbrow crap, channel after channel of PAY TV still is loaded with ads.

I submit that the last bit of diversity in America is the local TV station. If the media giants own them all we are going to get five or six flavors of ice cream, but they will all be selling vanilla. Rather than deciding that the media giants can have more local control, I as an American taxpayer, would like to see you take away much of the free reign that are the current broadcast ownership rules. Major companies can not monopolize the media without the political and social systems paying a high price.

So please, forgo the sweetheart deal you have lined up with industry in a few years for your vote today, and consider that you are the guardian of America's airwaves. Act like guardians, not lap dogs.

Sincerely,  
Helga Freund  
Taxpayer